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- (2) The NACIC is not required to make structural changes in existing facilities if other methods are effective in achieving compliance with this section.
- (3) In choosing among available methods for meeting the requirements of this section, the NACIC shall give priority to those methods that offer programs and activities to qualified individuals with disabilities in the most integrated setting appropriate.

§ 1807.151 Program accessibility: new construction and alterations.

Each building or part of a building that is constructed or altered by, on behalf of, or for the use of, the NACIC shall be designed, constructed, or altered so as to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities in compliance with the definitions, requirements, and standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, 36 CFR part 1191.

§§ 1807.152-1807.159 [Reserved]

§ 1807.160 Communications.

- (a) The NACIC shall take appropriate steps to ensure effective communication with applicants, participants, personnel of other Federal entities, and members of the public as follows:
- (1)(i) The NACIC shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids if necessary to afford an individual with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, a program or activity conducted by the NACIC.
- (ii) In determining what type of auxiliary aid is necessary, the NACIC shall give primary consideration to the requests of the individual with disabilities
- (2) Where the NACIC communicates with applicants and beneficiaries by telephone, telecommunication devices for deaf persons (TDD's) or equally effective telecommunication systems shall be used to communicate with persons with impaired hearing.
- (b) The NACIC shall ensure that interested persons, including persons with impaired vision or hearing, can obtain information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities.

(c) This section does not require the NACIC to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens. In those circumstances where NACIC personnel believe that the proposed action would fundamentally alter the program or activity or would result in undue financial and administrative burdens, the NACIC has the burden of proving that compliance with §1807.160 would result in such alteration or burdens. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the NACIC head or his or her designee after considering all NACIC resources available for use in the funding and operation of the conducted program or activity and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. If an action required to comply with this section would result in such an alteration or such burdens, the NACIC shall take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, individuals with disabilities receive the benefits and services of the program or activity.

§§ 1807.161-1807.169 [Reserved]

§ 1807.170 Compliance procedures.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, this section applies to all allegations of discrimination on the basis of disability in programs and activities conducted by the NACIC.
- (b) The NACIC shall process complaints alleging violations of section 504 with respect to employment according to the procedures established by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 29 CFR part 1614 pursuant to section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 791).
- (c) The Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, is responsible for coordinating implementation of this section. Complaints may be sent to NACIC, Director, Washington, DC 20505.
- (d) The NACIC shall accept and investigate all complete complaints for which it has jurisdiction. All complete

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complaints must be filed within 180 days of the alleged act of discrimination. The NACIC may extend this time period for good cause.

- (e) If the NACIC receives a complaint over which it does not have jurisdiction, it shall promptly notify the complainant and shall make reasonable efforts to refer the complaint to the appropriate government entity.
- (f) The NACIC shall notify the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board upon receipt of any complaint alleging that a building or facility that is subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines is not readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
- (g) Within 180 days of the receipt of a complete complaint for which it has jurisdiction, The NACIC shall notify the complainant of the results of the investigation in a letter containing:
- (1) Findings of fact and conclusions of law:
- (2) A description of a remedy for each violation found; and
 - (3) A notice of the right to appeal.

- (h) Appeals of the findings of fact and conclusions of law or remedies must be filed by the complainant within 90 days of receipt from the NACIC of the letter required by paragraph (g) of this section. The NACIC may extend this time for good cause.
- (i) Timely appeals shall be accepted and processed by the Director.
- (j) The NACIC shall notify the complainant of the results of the appeal within 60 days of the receipt of the request. If the NACIC determines that it needs additional information from the complainant, it shall have 60 days from the date it receives the additional information to make its determination on the appeal.
- (k) The time limits cited in paragraphs (g) and (j) of this section may be extended with the permission of the Assistant Attorney General.
- (1) The Director may delegate the authority for conducting complaint investigations to other Federal agencies, except that the authority for making the final determination may not be delegated.